Claims

1. A method for controlling the slip of a tire (1) of an automobile, said tire comprising a tread (3), said method consisting of adjusting said slip using the measurement of a variable linked to the surface temperature (T_2) of the tread in the contact area (2) of the tire.

2. A control method according to Claim 1, in which said linked variable is the surface temperature (T_3) of the tread (3), this variable being measured outside the contact area of the tire.

3. A control method according to Claim 2, in which the surface temperature (T_3) of the tread is measured in the vicinity of the exit from the contact area of the tire.

4. A control method according to one of Claims 2 or 3, in which the measurement of the surface temperature of the tread is an optical measurement.

5. A control method according to one of the preceding claims, furthermore comprising a step of acquisition of calibration data, said step consisting of recording a series of measurements of said linked variable and a corresponding series of measurements of forces or accelerations to which the vehicle is subjected in order to determine a preferred value of the calculation data used in controlling the slip.

6. A device for controlling the slip of a tire of an automobile, said device a means capable of adjusting the slip and a means (4) for measuring a variable linked to the surface temperature (T_2) of the tread of said tire in the contact area.

7. A device according to Claim 6, in which the means capable of adjusting the slip comprises a means for controlling the torque supplied by the vehicle engine to the wheel.

8. A device according to one of Claims 6 or 7, in which the means for controlling the torque comprises a management system for the braking power or the braking torque of the wheel.

9. A device according to one of Claims 6 to 8, in which the means for measuring the linked variable is an optical means (4) for measuring the temperature (T_3) of the tread outside the contact area (2).

10. A device according to Claim 9, in which the optical measurement means is a thermal camera (4) placed opposite the exit from the contact area.

11. A device according to one of Claims 6 to 10, furthermore comprising a means for measuring the acceleration of the vehicle.